

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification on page 1 by inserting the following new paragraph after the title:

This is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/984,947, filed October 31, 2001, which claims the benefit of the filing date of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-333932, filed October 31, 2000. These applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the title on page 1 as follows:

SUSPENSION OR PARTICLE-SOLVENT MIXTURE SYSTEM OF ZINC-CONTAINING CALCIUM PHOSPHATE MICROPARTICLES[[,]] AND THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR TREATING ZINC DEFICIENCY

Please replace the second and third full paragraphs under the heading "Detailed Description of the Invention," lines 8-15, on page 6 of the specification with the following paragraphs:

As used herein, the term "suspension" means a liquid containing particles that sediment at a sedimentation velocity of ~~0.4~~ 0.8 cm/s or smaller. At this range of sedimentation velocity, it takes ~~80~~ 10 seconds or more for the particles in the liquid to move downward (sink) a distance of 8 cm vertically through the liquid.

As used herein, the term “particle-solvent mixture system” means a liquid in which all particles sediment at a sedimentation velocity ~~larger than 0.1 cm/s of~~ 0.8 cm/s or smaller. At this range of sedimentation velocity, it takes ~~less than 80 seconds~~ 10 seconds or more for the particles in the liquid to move downward (sink) a distance of 8 cm vertically through the liquid.

Please amend the first full paragraph under the heading “Brief Description of the Drawings,” lines 19-21, on page 5 of the specification as follows:

Figure 1 shows the effects of intramuscular injection of a suspension of zinc-containing β -tricalcium phosphate microparticles containing 6.17% and 12.05% by weight of zinc on the bone mineral density of rats with zinc-deficiency-type osteoporosis.